SNC Reference Number
(enter if previously assigned)

PROJECT SUMMARY

submitted in FY07 as 070360 and 070361

County: Plumas

Applicant: Plumas Corporation, Feather River Coordinated Resource Management (FRCRM)

Project Title: Eastside Meadow Restoration Project Development

PROJECT GOAL

The goal of this SNC request is to complete the project development and environmental work necessary to successfully seek funds to carry out the on-the-ground restoration of three eastside montane meadows within the Upper Feather River Watershed.

PROJECT SCOPE

The Eastside Meadow Restoration Project Development proposal encompasses three montane meadow systems within the Upper Feather River Watershed along Red Clover, Last Chance, and Rowland Creeks. All channels are downcut to an elevation of six to eight feet below the surface of the floodplain. The proposed schematic project would reconnect the downcut gully channel to the floodplain using the "plug-and-pond" technique. The primary dysfunction is that flood flows have become confined within the gully rather than spreading out onto the floodplain. This ever-increasing pressure on the banks leads to ongoing bed and bank erosion and further widening until an adequate floodplain has been eroded out at the lower elevation. The pond and plug technique is an economical way to eliminate downcut channels. The plugs effectively eliminate the downcut channel as a conduit for accelerated flow out of the meadow. The ponds provide material for the plug. The ponds and plugs are part of the floodplain. Elevation of water in the ponds is a reflection of the groundwater elevation. All exposed soil areas, including the soil plugs and around the top edge of the ponds would be vegetated with locally collected native material. The project would provide an estimated 676 acre-feet of summer baseflow, reduce flood peak flows by 20%, reduce summer water temperatures by 5 degrees F. and eliminate erosion from gully walls while filtering upland sediments across the restored floodplain. Further on-site benefits include rejuvenated terrestrial and aquatic habitats as well as a sustainable increase in agricultural productivity. This SNC proposal would provide all design development, environmental surveys and CEQA/NEPA applications for permits to enable this project to be implemented with future grant funding.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

John Matley (Last Chance and Rowland Creek landowner); George Goodwin and Goodwin Family Ranch (Red Clover Creek landowner); U.S. Forest Service Plumas National Forest (PNF), Beckwourth Ranger District (public landowner)

SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Hold technical advisory committee/interdisciplinary team meetings with landowner, stakeholders, and Plumas National Forest-Beckwourth Ranger District specialists & FRCRM staff cross section, longitudinal surveys	August 2009
Solicit bids for archaeology, botany, wildlife survey & reports; subcontractor field work begins	March 2010 (bids) May 2010 (surveys)
Subcontractor reports due & PNF scoping period	October 2010
FRCRM staff writes CEQA/NEPA docments	November 2010
PNF review/approval of NEPA document; Plumas County review/approval of CEQA document	December 2010
30-day CEQA/NEPA public comment period	**January 2011**
Permit applications submitted to agencies; Complete and sign landowner agreements	**February 2011**
Implementation funding applications submitted (i.e. SNC competitive grant program; EPA Wetlands grant program; NRCA Innovation in Conservation grant prog.	**Nov 2010-Mar 2011**
Progress Reports (every six months); Final Report	**Feb & Aug 2010, Feb 2011; Final May 2011**
Construct project	**July-Nov 2011**